THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) M/s Madras Fertilizers Limited, M/s The Fertilisers & Chemicals Travancore Limited, M/s Tata Chemicals Limited and M/s Godavari Fertilisers & Chemicals Limited reported hindrance in the supply of phosphoric acid by international suppliers due to constraints in availability in the international market.

(d) The country is almost totally dependent on the imports of raw mateials/intermediates for phosphatic and potassic fertilizers. The import of phosphoric acid is decanalised. Based on the price negotiated by the phosphoric acid importers, the Government of India decides the price of phosphoric acid for working out per tonne concession on phosphatic and complex fertilizers. Some manufacturing units have suffered production losses of phosphatic fertilizers because of delay in the arrivals of phosphoric acid imports. The actual production of phosphate in the country from 1st April to 30th November, 2004 was 16.51 lakh MT as against the target of 21.32 lakh MT.

(e) In order to overcome the recurrence of this problem, the Government is encouraging establishment of more Joint Venture Companies for manufacturing phosphoric acid.

Chemicals Wastage of Union Carbide

885. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the dangerous chemical wastage of Union Carbide is still a curse for local masses and it should be removed as soon as possible;

(b) what action has been taken to ensure the destruction of the waste;

(c) whether Government plan to get help from other developed countries to get rid of it;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (e) At present the State Government is owner and possessor of the factory land and premises. Under the existing environmental laws remediation of the Plant site is responsibility of the State Government being possessor of the site. However, under the principle of polluter to pay the Company can be asked to pay for the expenditure. On this issue there is litigation going on in the District Court of Southern District of New York, USA. The Central Government in consultation with the State Government has given its 'No Objection Certificate' for environmental remediation of the former Union Carbide Plant premises in Bhopal and it shall be subject to monitoring and supervision of Union of India. There is another Writ Petition pending on the issue in the High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur. The matter is subjudice. At present there is no plan to get any help from any developed country for removal of these chemical wastes.

Increasing foodgrains allocation to States

886. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the month-wise details of allocation of foodgrains to Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Prsdesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and States of North Eastern Region from the Central pool during the last three years;

(b) whether Central Government have received any demand from various State Governments to enhance the allocation to foodgrains; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Month-wise details of allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for the respective States for the last three years is at annexure (See Appendix 203. Annexure No. 9). The allocation to these Stetes in respect of Welfare Schemes for the last three years is given in the Statement *(See* below). The allocation of foodgrains in respect of welfare schemes is made on annual basis.

(b) Some States have demanded the increase in allocation of foodgrains under Below Poverty Line (BPL) category of TPDS.